

Action Plans for the Conservation of Globally Threatened Birds in Africa

Stakeholders Workshop to agree on the Spotted Ground Thrush National Species Action Plan for Kenya

13-14 January 2004, Mwamba Field study Centre (A Rocha Kenya), Watamu, Kenya

Workshop Report



National Species Co-ordinator for Kenya

Kariuki Ndang'ang'a, Nature Kenya/National Museums of Kenya

Facilitators:

Eric Sande, Nature Uganda

Kariuki Ndang'ang'a, Nature Kenya/National Museums of Kenya

Report:

Eric Sande, Nature Uganda,

Kariuki Ndang'ang'a, Nature Kenya/National Museums of Kenya

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Summary

A workshop to draw up the national species conservation action plan for the conservation of the Endangered Spotted Ground Thrush, *Zoothera guttata*, for Kenya was held on 13-14 January 2004, Mwamba Field Study Centre (A Rocha Kenya), Watamu, Kenya. The workshop brought together species experts, representatives from different Conservation NGOs, local community members and government departments in Kenya. Facilitators included the National Species Action Plan Coordinator for Kenya and the Coordinator, African Species Working Group.

This workshop followed the agreed format and process of translating an international action plan into the national context. It was one of the 15 national species action plan for globally threatened bird species in the 3 year species action plan project supported and implemented by 17 African BirdLife partner organisations and RSPB and co-funded by the UK Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) under the Darwin Initiative.

The aim of this plan is to ensure that in 5 years, the knowledge on the distribution, conservation biology and status of species is improved in Kenya. In order to achieve this aim, four strategic objectives and a number of projects were set. The species action plan will be published in June 2004.

1. Introduction

Action Plans for the Conservation of Globally threatened birds in Africa is a 3-year project (SAP Project), which aims to build the capacity for species action planning and conservation in Africa. The project started in April 2001 and is coordinated on behalf of the BirdLife International African Species Working Group by Nature Uganda, BirdLife South Africa and the RSPB (BirdLife Partners in Uganda, South Africa and UK respectively). It is implemented by BirdLife partner organisations in 17 African countries and co-funded by the UK Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) under the Darwin Initiative.

BirdLife International African partnership defined a Species Action Plan as “a scientifically authoritative, strategic document that defines specific, measurable objectives and actions for conserving priority species; that should be achievable, time-bound and involve all appropriate stakeholders”. The African Partnership with assistance from the RSPB developed a species action planning format (Annex 1) and process (Annex 2) that have been approved by the Council of African Partnership as models for BirdLife International in Africa.

The Spotted Ground Thrush, *Zoothera guttata* is among the 7 globally threatened bird species in Africa for which international and national species action plans are being developed under the SAP project. Spotted Ground Thrush is classified as Endangered and is known to occur in the wild only in Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Malawi, Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo.

There are 5 races of *Zoothera guttata*, all existing in isolated patches of moist evergreen forest (Dean *et al.*, 1992). Two are migratory coastal races, one (*Z. g. fischeri*) in Kenya and Tanzania, and the other (*Z. g. guttata*) in South Africa. A resident race (*Z. g. belcheri*) is found in Malawi, and two other races are known from single specimens in Sudan (*Z. g. maxis*) and Democratic Republic of Congo (*Z. g. lippensi*). The separation of the five races is based on morphological differences only.

In Kenya it has been recorded north to Lamu, but with most records from the Gedi and Arabuko-Sokoke Forests. It is present at very low densities throughout the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest, but has in the past been known to occur at higher densities in the few tiny patches of thick coastal forest such as Diani, Shimoni and Gede. A few records have been made in Kaya Gandini, Kaya Waa, Mrima Hill Forest, Mkongani and Shimba Hills.

2. Workshop

The workshop was organised by the Nature Kenya (the BirdLife International partner in Kenya), the National Museums of Kenya and the BirdLife International Africa Species Working Group (ASWG). Participants included some staff from the National Museums of Kenya, species experts, representatives of Kenya government departments, local community and conservation NGOs. The workshop was facilitated by Kariuki Nding’ang’a (Nature Kenya/National Museums of Kenya) and Eric Sande (Nature Uganda/ASWG). The workshop objective was to produce a Spotted Ground Thrush national action plan for Kenya through a facilitated and participatory process.

2.2 Workshop Programme and Implementation

The two-day workshop was based on the national species action planning format (Annex 3) and process (Annex 4) developed to translate an international species action plan into a national context. Sessions included some presentations, but mainly facilitated discussions, both in plenary and group work using brainstorming on flip charts and cards. The results of each group work session were subsequently presented to the plenary, discussed and agreed. The workshop programme is shown in Annex 5. Below is a summary of major sessions.

Day One-13th January

2.2.1 Introduction

Mr Colin Jackson, the Director A Rocha Kenya opened the workshop that was hosted by A Rocha Kenya at Mwamba. He welcome all the participants and informed them that A Rocha's mission is conservation and it works with all organisations and individuals with the same mission. He informed the participants that the Spotted Ground Thrush is highly threatened and needs concerted effort to conserve.

Using a card exercise, participants then introduced themselves, outlining their position, where they are based and their experience in species conservation work (Annex 6). Participants were then taken through workshop techniques while using cards and flip chart. The rules of using cards and flip chart during brainstorming are shown in Annex 7. Using a card exercise, participants then listed their expectations from the workshop (Annex 8). Using flipcharts, participants brainstormed what a species action plan is and the results of the brainstorm on the SAP definition and the model definition developed the BirdLife International African Partnership are shown in Annex 9.

2.2.2 Background information about the Spotted Ground Thrush

The background material on the Spotted Ground Thrush was presented to the participants to enable them all know the existing information about the species and have an input. The material was by and large specific to Kenya. Participants then identified the gaps in knowledge on species, the on-going & potential projects that may benefit the species, risks and opportunities that may affect the implementation of the action plan and the important stakeholders in the context of Kenya.

2.2.3 Problem analysis

Participants were introduced to the problem tree/analysis and how the problem tree in the Spotted Ground Thrush International Plan (ISAP) was constructed. The problem tree as it appears in the ISAP was presented so that the participants understand the logic of the cause-effect relationship of issues affecting the spotted Ground Thrush in its entire range. Participants agreed on the relevance of the cards on the upper level of the problem tree to Kenya and were then divided into two groups to review the branches of the problem tree and make them as relevant to Kenya as possible.

Day two-14th January

2.2.4 Prioritisation of threats and review the objectives from the ISAP

In the plenary, participants agreed on the new problem tree relevant to Kenya and prioritised all issues that impact on species in the problem tree (◆=low, ◆◆=medium, ◆◆◆=high and ◆◆◆◆=critical) and reviewed the four objectives in the ISAP.

2.2.5 Projects/activities, vision and aim

In the same groups that reviewed the branches of the problem tree, Group 1 reviewed the Project for objectives 1 and 2 while Group 2 reviewed projects for objectives 3 and 4 in the ISAP on the basis of the new problem tree. The two groups removed some projects in the ISAP, retained some, modified others and developed new ones where appropriate. In the plenary, participants agreed on the new projects, vision and aim of the action plan for Kenya.

In the same groups as for objectives and designing project concepts, participants completed the projects table using the headings: Policy and legislation, Species and habitat, Monitoring

and research, Public awareness and training and Community involvement. The following were highlighted: the Project's overall priority (◆=low, ◆◆=medium, ◆◆◆=high and ◆◆◆◆=critical), lead agencies, time scale, the cost (◆=<US\$ 10,000, ◆◆=US\$ 10,000–US\$ 50,000, ◆◆◆=US\$ >50,000) and risks & opportunities that may hamper or enhance the implementation of each specific project. In the plenary, participants agreed on the specifics of each project in the plan.

2.2.6 Monitoring and Evaluation

Participants agreed that the M & E plan for the Spotted Ground Thrush action plan will be done at project, objectives and aim levels. The key agencies that should oversee the M & E with the help of the National Species Action Plan coordinator include:-

- KWS (ASF, Shimba Hills, Lamu)
- NMK (CFU, Gede, Ornithology).
- Nature Kenya (Conservation Programme)
- Forest Department (DFO Malindi, Kwale)
- USAID
- Community representatives (FADA, ASF, ASFGA, Mrimadzo)
- DEMA – Decos, Malindi, Lamu, Kwale
- A Rocha Kenya (Director, Education Officer)
- SGT/Coastal globally threatened species Working Group (Coordinator)

Participants agreed that the projects table with specific and measurable indicators should be used for M&E by adding two columns, one for Completion date and another for Remarks and the evaluation annually.

3.0 Results

The workshop was well attended by 14 participants (Annex 6). Of these, 5 were government officials, 3 came from local community and 6 were representatives of conservation NGOs.

All the planned activities in the workshop program (Annex 5) were accomplished. The results of the workshop were used to draft a national Spotted Ground Thrush Action Plan for Kenya (Annex 10). A small group was appointed to produce a press release (Annex 11) that will be published in the local media.

In the draft plan, the gaps on the global population status and local distribution are presented in Tables 1 and 2 respectively. Figure 1 shows the local distribution in Kenya. The national and international legislations that may benefit the species in Kenya are presented in Table 3. The important stakeholders for the spotted Ground Thrush and how they impact on the species in Kenya are shown in Table 4. The cause-effect relationship of all the issues/threats affecting the Spotted ground Thrush conservation and their relative importance to the Kenyan situation are shown in the problem tree (Figure 2). The vision, aim and objectives of the plan are presented in Table 5 while Table 6 shows projects numbered according to the corresponding objectives under headings Policy and legislation, Species and habitat, Monitoring and research, Public awareness and training and Community involvement. Table 6 in addition shows the specifics of the projects with their relative priority importance to the conservation of the species in Kenya, agencies that will take the lead to implement the project, time scale, cost, risks and opportunities that may affect or enhance the implementation of the project. The risks & opportunities and the ongoing & potential project that may benefit the species in Kenya are shown in Tables 7. The press release highlighting the key outputs of the plan for urgent action is shown in Annex 11.

4.0 Next steps

Activity	By whom	By when (2004)
Produce workshop with draft action plan	Eric/Kariuki	End of March
Circulate soft copy of draft AP or comments	Kariuki/Eric	End March
Circular hard copy of workshop report (postal)	RSPB	Mid April
Produce final Action Plan	Kariuki/Eric	End of May
Launch Plan	Nature Kenya	(Date to be decided)
Distribute Plan	RSPB	June

5.0 Evaluation

At the end of the workshop, a review of participants' expectations in a plenary indicated that all had been achieved indicating that the workshop was very successful. At the end of each of the two days, participants were asked to fill in a simple form to evaluate the mood of the group. As indicated in Annex 12, participants were extremely positive about the workshop.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: BirdLife International African Species Action Plan Format

Presentation:

- *Not too plain, not too glossy (This will vary from country to country)¹*
- *Appropriate language, executive summary also in English*

A) Front Cover

- Logos
- Picture of species
- Date
- Title
- Subtitle
- National Emblem²

B) Inside Front cover

- Authors
- Contributors
- Interest Group
- Credits
- Citation
- Thanks to local people, if appropriate

Foreword

- Government official, Head of state of Royalty
- Internationally famous conservationist

Table of content

- *clear and all on one page*

Acronyms

Definition

- What is a Species Action Plan?
- Why this plan?
- Geographic scope
- Introduce SAP history and objectives
- National plan to refer to International plan

0. Executive summary

- *No more than 1 page.*
- *Multilingual, if appropriate*
 - status
 - distribution
 - conservation priority
 - threats
 - aim, objectives and major activities
 - history of plan and stakeholders
 - wider benefits

1. Introduction

- *no more than 1 page*
 - introduce species (distribution, status, threats, emotive)
 - introduce limiting factors
 - introduce stakeholders
 - biodiversity justification and benefits of plan and outcome to species and communities
 - aim and objectives with timescale

¹ *Italics: notes*

² underlined: national action plans only

2. Background Information

- taxonomy as relevant
- distribution and population status
 - global, (*present as summary table*)
 - local (*present as summary table*)

Population and distribution

Country	Population (plus quality code)	distribution	Population trend (plus quality code)	Seasonal occurrence
	<i>Estimate of total number</i>	<i>Widespread, local</i>	<i>Stable, increasing, decreasing</i>	<i>Resident or months</i>

- potential habitat (if appropriate)
- map
- movements, if relevant to plan
- protection status
 - legal protection (*in table, country by country*)
 - international legislation (*in table*)
 - does it occur in protected areas and IBAs? (*list in table per country*)
- Relationship with other SAPs and biodiversity strategies
- Habitat requirements of the species
- Biology and ecology
 - *only relevant information*
 - *bibliography contains all references*
- Threats and potential threats
 - *Short description of each threat*
 - *Develop list of key words to ensure consistency of use between plans*
 - *Link threats with ecology and biology of species*
 - *Always try to quantify threats*
 - *Rank threats*
 - *State of current knowledge*
 - *Gap analysis*
 - *Summarise as problem tree, start with conservation status, prioritise direct causes (◆◆◆◆: critical, ◆◆◆: high, ◆◆: medium, ◆ low,, ? unknown)*
- Stakeholder Analysis
 - *Summary table*
- Factors influencing success of action plan implementation
 - Socio-cultural effects
 - Economic implications
 - Strengths and weaknesses of existing conservation measures
 - Administrative/ political set-up
 - Biology of species (*e.g. does it breed in captivity, how specialised is it, how long does it live?*)
 - Local expertise and interest
 - Cultural attitudes
 - Appeal of species (eco-tourism)
 - Resources

3. Action Programme

- *Aims, objective and projects developed from problem tree*
 - **Vision**
 - *Long term vision for the status of species*
 - *Specific and measurable/ clear indicators*
 - *Time frame*
 - *Add short text*
 - **Aim**

- *Aim of the species action plan*
- *Specific and measurable/ clear indicators*
- *Time frame*
- *Targets might differ between national and international plan, but national plan contributes and refers to international plan*
- *Use IUCN criteria, Red Data Book, World Bird Database when applicable*
- *Add short explanatory text*
- **Objectives**
 - *Strategic objectives*
 - *Specific and measurable/ clear indicators*
 - *Use key headings*
 - *Prioritised (◆, ◆◆◆◆?)*
 - *Add short explanatory text for each objective (include summary of activities)*
- **Projects (see Table)**
 - *Table and short description for each*
 - *Should always refer to benefits to local people*
 - *Number each project according to related objective*
 - *List under the following headings:*
 - *Policy and legislation*
 - *Species and habitat*
 - *Monitoring and research*
 - *Public awareness and training*
 - *Community involvement*
 - *International*

Project	Countries	Overall Priority	Agencies responsible	Cost	Time scale	Indicators	Risks and Opportunities
A) Policy and legislation							
1.1 Name of project	List of countries with priorities ◆-◆◆◆◆	Score ◆-◆◆◆◆?	Generic for international plan Specific for national plan	<u>National plan only</u>	Length, start		
1.2 Name of project							
3.3 Name of project							
B) Species and habitat							
1.5 Name of project							
C) Monitoring and research							
Etc.							
D) Public awareness and training							
E) Community involvement							
F) International							
Etc.							

- **Monitoring and Evaluation Plan**

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

Appendices

- List of relevant web pages
- Entry from Threatened Birds of the World
- List of protected areas and IBAs where species occurs
- Occupied areas most in need of action
- List of contacts (stakeholders, Species Interest Group, other)

Annex 2: BirdLife International African Partnership International SAP detailed Workshop Process

Day	Activity	Description	Techniques and aids	Lead person
1	Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Official opening and welcome of the participants to the workshop •A few remarks by the organizers 	Presentation	VIP, Host NGO, ASWGC, CASWG
	Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Self introductions, expectations • Objectives of workshop •SAP project, what a species action plan actually is •Workshop Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Presentation of flip charts, a participant introduces his/her colleague and vice versa (position, experience on species conservation and expectations) •A few obvious ones may be presented, discussed on flip chart and more added through brain storm •The objectives may all be derived from expectation •Presentation on Overheads/Flip chart •Quick overview of the entire workshop program of overheads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •All participants as facilitator captures the expectations on flip chart •Facilitator •ASWG •Facilitator
	Background information on species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Background document previously circulated to participants is presented and discussed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Presentation on Overheads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ISAPC with help from species experts
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Group (according to countries) and plenary discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making obvious comments/corrections/additions on the document • Gaps in knowledge with respect to the species: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Population status Local distribution National legislation • On-going projects with respect to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Comments on overheads and flip chat •Groups fill in the country's species population status table •Groups fill in the country's national legislation table with respect to the species •Groups fill in the table and map for local distribution, numbers and potential areas for the species for their respective countries •Groups fill in the table of the on going projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ISAPC •One person from group presents to plenary for discussion •One person from group presents to plenary for discussion •One person from group presents to plenary for discussion •One person from group presents to

	Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the species Factors affecting the success of action plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Feel of the day 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> for their respective countries ● Brain storming on flip chat the risks and opportunities under the headings: Resources, Ecology & Biology and Appeal of the species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participants indicate whether they are unhappy, happy or very happy on a moodometer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> plenary for discussion ● Facilitator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All participants
2	Recap of day 1 Stakeholders Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brief highlights of the day 1 sessions ● What are Stakeholders ● Country Stakeholders analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indicating on overheads what has been covered and where we are ● Presentations on flip charts ● Groups according to countries fill in the table with headings: Stakeholder Group, interests, activities, impact, intensity and how these will be addressed by SAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Facilitator: ask the participants to give suggestions on flip chat ● Facilitator: ask the participants to give suggestions on flip chat ● One person from each group presents to plenary for discussion
	Main threats Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identification of the main threats ● Using the reasons why species is threatened (GTB2000), brainstorming onto cards to build the Problem tree ● Prioritize the threats and causes of threats ● Feel of the day 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All participants brain storm on cards which are then sorted appropriately ● Participants divide into groups of about 5 and each group analyses the root causes using a cause-effect relationship in the problem tree of a threatened species ● Agreeing as a group and indicating on the cards whether the threat/cause of threat is critical (◆◆◆◆), high (◆◆◆), medium (◆◆), low (◆) or unknown (?) ● Participants indicate whether they are unhappy, happy or very happy on a moodometer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussions lead by the Facilitator ● One person from each group presents to plenary for discussion ● Discussions lead by the Facilitator ● All participants
3	Recap of day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brief highlights of the day 1 & 2 sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indicating on overheads what has been covered and where we are 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Facilitator: ask the participants to give suggestions on flip chat
	Preparation of press release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Appoint a group to prepare a press release 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Press release presented on overheads to the plenary for discussion ● Participants from country groups can give it a "country flavor" and adopt it for their country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Facilitator ● Country participants
	Vision, aim and objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agree on the life span of AP which has a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brainstorm on flip chats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Facilitator

		bearing on the aim ●Agree on Vision of action plan; usually downgrading the species (threat status) ●Agree on aim ●Groups develop objectives which can be set derived from the priority threats/causes at any level in the Problem Tree ●Plenary to discuss and agree on the objectives	●Brain storm on cards and flip chat ●List the priority threats from Problem Tree	●Facilitator ●Facilitator
	Formulation of Project Concepts	●Project concepts formulated to address achievement of each objective	●Group work where a group develops project concepts for 1 or 2 objectives: ●Project concepts presented with headings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policy and legislation ○ Species and habitat ○ Monitoring and research ○ Public awareness and training ○ Community involvement 	●One person from each group presents to plenary for discussion
	Review Stakeholder analysis (SHA)	●To assess whether SAP activities proposed for SH in the SHA have all been included in the SAP	●All the participants go through the column SAP activities to address impact in SHA tables and reconsider the activities not catered for in the project concepts	●Facilitator Compare SH SAP activities column in SHA with SAP activities and make sure all are incorporated into the SAP
	Evaluation	●Feel of the day 3	●Participants indicate whether they are unhappy, happy or very happy on a moodometer	●All participants
4	Recap of day 3	●Brief highlights of the day 1,2 &3 sessions	●Indicating on overheads what has been covered and where we are	●Facilitator
	Completion of projects table	●Project concepts entered into table clearly indicating the details on how the project will be executed	●Group work where the groups fill the table indicating the project, countries overall priority, Agencies responsible, time scale, cost, indicators, risks & opportunities. Projects entered under the headings: Policy and legislation, Species and habitat, Monitoring and research, Public awareness and training and Community involvement	●One person from each group presents to plenary for discussion
	M&E Plan	●Participants consider WHO & HOW will the AP be monitored and evaluated both at National and International levels	●Brain storming on flip chats	●Facilitator
	Adopt plan	●Participants review the entire plan	●Identify and fill any obvious gaps	●Facilitator

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●AP adopted by participants 	
	Creation of Species Interest Groups (SIGs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Participants given some insights on what SIGs are, what they do and how they fit into the structure of BirdLife International Africa Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Presentation on overheads/flip chat 	ASWG
	Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Participants agree on what happens next, who does what and the dead lines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Brain storming on flip chat 	●ISAPC
	Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Synthesis of the work done in the four days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Participants indicate whether they are unhappy, happy or very happy on a moodometer for the 4th day and for all the 4 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Facilitator ●All Participants
	Wrap up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Official closure of workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●A few speeches, vote of thanks, etc 	●Facilitator, ISAPC, ASWG
	Business meeting of SIG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Chart out the way forward towards spearheading the conservation initiatives for the species ●Discuss production of national SAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Elect office bearers if appropriate ●Secretary takes minutes of meeting 	●ISAPC
5	Field excursion			

AP= Action Plan, ASWG= African Species Working Group, ASWGC= African Species Working Group Coordinator, CASWG= Chair African Species working Group, SAP=Species Action Plan, SHA= Stakeholder Analysis, SIG=Species Interest Group, ISAPC= International Species Action Plan Coordinator, VIP=Very Important Person.

Annex 3: Steps taken in National species action planning

(a) WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE BEFORE THE WORKSHOP

BACKGROUND MATERIAL

The participants agreed that what is required is editing the background document in the international action plan so that it contains more country-specific information.

The following could be noted when undertaking the editing

- Any information bias may need to be removed. It was noted that there is a tendency for the background document to contain more information about the species from the International SAP Coordinator's country. ISAPCs are responsible for compiling the background documents for each species.
- Ensure that language used in the background document is understandable by most (all) stakeholders at national level.
- Include more country specific information.
- Retain an international perspective. This highlights the existence of the international action plan. It assists the stakeholders with assessing their national contribution to conserving the species.

Distribution and population status

- Global population: Table only, no text.
- Species national (country) population: Present detailed information in table and text. Include a map if possible.
- Include a country specific habitat description (if available and applicable)
- Movements in country.
- Protection status:
 - Legal protection (Use national legislation and signatories to International Conventions table in the ISAP). This addresses national legislation and international legislation. Move the country being focused on to the top row in the table.
 - Important Bird Areas (IBA) and Protected Areas (PA): Use Table (from ISAP) for Local distribution, numbers and protected area status of species sites. Included only the information relevant to the country in question.
 - Include size of each IBA and PA.

Relationship with other SAPs and biodiversity strategies

- Include only the country specific information.
- Mention the other SAPs for the species that have been produced in other countries.

Biology and ecology

- As in the ISAP background information.

Do we have to draft the background material specific to the country, threats and potential threats?

- Compile list from international action plan. The root causes of threats from the problem tree.
- Highlight any that are specific or unique to the country in question.

Stakeholders' analysis

- The stakeholder analysis (SHA) should be redone at national level. Use the outline as used in the ISAP. Do not simply adopt what is contained in the international plan.
- Edit any sections that may cause offence to certain stakeholders.

Why do a stakeholders analysis?

- To identify the appropriate stakeholders and stakeholder groups.
- To assess the knowledge that stakeholders have of each other.
- To take advantage of stakeholders that can assist with preparation.
- To identify the appropriate stakeholders and stakeholder groups to invite to the workshop.
- To identify critical stakeholders without whom the workshop cannot proceed.
- To be reviewed during the workshop by the facilitators in order to ensure that all appropriate stakeholders and stakeholder groups are represented at the workshop.
- Approximately 25-30 participants are appropriate per workshop facilitator.

When do you do stakeholders analysis?

- Should be done before the workshop since it is on the basis of this analysis that workshop participants are selected.
- Where appropriate, maintain a personal contact with the stakeholders.

How is a stakeholders analysis done?

- Refer to the country specific stakeholder analyses contained in the ISAP. Compile a list of stakeholders providing information on their interests, impacts on the species, a rating of each impact and what they could contribute to implementation of a species action plan. The analyses should be distributed amongst colleagues (especially those that know the species or certain of the sites) for comments. All national stakeholders should be included.
- Consult with local people at the species sites. This will help identify key people and /or representatives of interest groups that may have been missed.
- After completing the SHA you may end up with a long list of proposed participants. There may be a need to prioritise the stakeholders in order to compile an invitation list. This could be done by:
 - Ensuring wide stakeholder representation.
 - There may be a bias towards agencies with a conservation mandate for the species and its sites
 - There may be a bias towards agencies that can help in the implementation.
 - You could obtain assistance from species experts to select key people without whom the workshop cannot take place
- In instances where the workshop is going to include high level politicians and local community participants it may be necessary to hold two separate workshops.
 - It is important that you provide the relevant background information in the invitation letter in order to ensure that the appropriate person (technical/administrative) attends the workshop.
 - The steps involved in the SHA will vary from country to country. Do what works best in your country by keeping in mind what you want out of the SHA.

Factors influencing success of action plan implementation

- From the international background document; remove factors not applicable to the country in question and add in factors applicable to the country.
- Risks and opportunities (use table in international document)

National AP background document is the starting point to making the link between the international and national SAP.

- The person preparing the national AP background document must read the international SAP.

- Suggested schedule for sending the national background material to stakeholders ahead of the workshop:
 - Snail-mail:>4 weeks
 - Email: 2 weeks and a reminder 1 week
 - Participants agreed that it is not necessary to send the International SAP to everybody invited to the workshop
- Suggested schedule for sending the workshop invitation to stakeholders:
 - State in the invitation letter that the International SAP is available on request.
 - Clearly state that the person is being invited to attend a workshop to develop a national action plan.
 - There may be a need to have make direct contact, and agree the workshop dates, with selected key people that you can not hold the workshop without.
 - Start preparations early. At least 3-4 months in advance of the workshop dates.
 - Send the letter of invitation as soon as the workshop dates have been agreed (3 months ahead of the workshop).
 - Send a remainder 6 weeks ahead of workshop.

(b) WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE DURING THE WORKSHOP

1. INTRODUCTION

Workshop participants should introduce themselves in order to:

- get to know each other and feel at home
- ensure familiarity
- ensure everybody participates

Mention of a participants position during the introductions may be perceived as intimidatory to others. In other circumstances it may however be an important form of recognition for some participants.

Knowing the Participants' expectations of workshop:

- Gives the facilitator an idea of whether the participants have prepared for the workshop.
- All the participants feel that their interests are catered for.
- Used to refine the workshop objectives.
- Provides the facilitator with an opportunity to identify expectations that may fall outside the planned scope of the workshop. These could either be incorporated into the workshop programme. Opportunities (breaks and in the evenings) can be used to discuss the expectations with the proponent and hopefully go some way in addressing them.
- At the end of the workshop, the participants' expectations are reviewed. This assists the facilitator in assessing the success of the workshops. Any expectations not addressed and the reasons for this will need to be discussed and agreed.

2. BACKGROUND MATERIAL

Presentation of background material

- Brings all the participants to a minimum level of knowledge.
- The background material needs to be well structured and should be presented. Certain international issues of relevance to the production of the national plan should be retained (eg migratory species, cross-border species).
- After presenting the material, participants should be given a chance to make contributions. Distributing the background documentation well ahead of the workshop and receiving comments and incorporating them before the workshop should be encouraged and will reduce the time spent on this step.

Discussion of background material

(a) Gaps in knowledge

- Allows up-to-date information to be incorporated that may affect decisions taken during the workshop.
- The facilitator must ensure that the discussions remain relevant to production of an action plan and do not get ahead of the process.

(b) On-going and potential projects

- Need to state clearly what the species in-country distribution is as many of the people at the workshop may know a lot about selected sites only,
- Brainstorm the on-going and potential projects at the sites where the species is found. These projects may have a positive or negative impact on the species.

(c) Factors influencing success of Action plan implementation

- Determine whether there are risks and opportunities that may affect the implementation of the action plan.

3. STAKEHOLDERS ANALYSIS

- Participants agreed that the SHA for the national workshop should no be repeated because it is already thoroughly done in the preparation of the background material and it is on the basis of the SHA that the workshop participants were identified and invited.
- It was however emphasised that although not all the stakeholders can be invited to attend the workshop; their contribution to the AP implementation is still considered and they can be assigned some projects/actions to implement.
- During the workshop, it is important to review the SHA in order to ensure that all appropriate stakeholders and stakeholder groups are represented at the workshop.

4. THREAT ANALYSIS

Participants agreed that to properly present the threat analysis from the ISAP, it is important to:

- Explain how the problem tree grew
- Present the problem tree as contained in the ISAP.
- Agree in the plenary (add/subtract) any changes to the upper level of the problem tree
- Divide the participants into working groups based on groups within the Problem Tree (4-5 groups) and Working Groups:
 - Review the branches to assess the relevance to the country.
 - Make the relevant changes to make it relevant to the country.
- In the plenary
 - Each group presents
 - Discussion and consensus reached on final problem tree for the NSAP.

- Prioritisation of each card according to each cards impact on the species: low (◆), medium (◆◆), high (◆◆◆) and critical (◆◆◆◆).
- If no change are made to the levels in the ISAP at which objectives were set:
 - Retain objectives from the ISAP in the NSAP.
 - Divide into working groups:
 - (a) Design projects that address the achievement of each objective (considering the headings: Policy and legislation, Species and habitat, Monitoring and research, Public awareness and training, Community involvement and International).
 - (b) Review project concepts from ISAP specified for the country.
 - (c) Review changes to Problem Tree and projects.
 - Plenary: present and get consensus on projects.
- If changes are made to the levels in the ISAP at which objectives were set:
 - If additions are made:
 - Consider whether the changes are catered for by the existing objectives from the ISAP. If yes, go to (b) above.
 - If changes are not addressed in the existing objectives from the ISAP, formulate new objectives in plenary and go to (b) above.
 - If some subtractions are made, assess whether all the objectives are still relevant.
- After agreeing on the objectives and projects, review:
 - Project concepts against risks and opportunities in the implementation of plan.
 - Project concepts against national problem tree.
 - Vision and agree changes if any.
 - Aim and agree changes if any, add 'in country'
- Working groups:
 - Complete the Projects Table
 - One working group is formed to work on indicators for the aim and objectives
 - Table is filled in using headings Policy and legislation, Species and habitat, Monitoring and research, Public awareness and training, Community involvement and International
 - Use ISAP as a reference.
- Plenary presentations
 - Sections of projects table completed
 - Indicators for aim and objectives
 - Discussions and consensus on project table and indicators for aim and objective
- M & E plan-What?, Who, Why?
- Determine whether there is any part of the plan that anyone has a problem with or objects to.
- Adopt the plan.
- Determine the Next Steps.

Annex 4: National Stakeholders Workshop Programme:

Date & Time.	Time (min)	Activity	Description	Person responsible
Day 1.				
	15	Welcome and opening	Plenary. Brief welcome to everyone by host NGO Official opening by VIP	
	30	Introductions	Plenary - Cards. Name, Organisation, Position, Where based, Species. conservation experience. - Put cards with headings up on the wall.	
	15	Explanation of workshop techniques	Plenary - Cards. Explain rationale behind: - Brainstorm first; only then open discussion. - Use of Cards & flipchart.	
	60	Expectations.	Plenary - Cards. 3 cards to each participant, Put cards on wall & group. Use expectations to refine the workshop objectives.	
10:30 - 11:00	30	Tea/Coffee Break		
	15	What is a Species Action Plan?	Plenary - Flipchart. Brainstorm & short discussion.	
	15	Workshop programme.	Plenary - Overhead. Brief overview of the entire workshop programme.	
	60	Presentation of background information.	Plenary - Overheads. Presentation of the information contained in the background document prepared for the workshop.	
	30	Discussion of background information.	Q1: Gaps in knowledge on species Plenary - discussion, captured on flipchart.	
13:00 - 14:00	60	LUNCH		
	60	Discussion of background information cont.	Q2: On-going & potential projects in country Plenary - brainstorm & discussion onto flipchart. Q3: Risk & opportunities affecting implementation of the national action plan in country Plenary - brainstorm onto cards, group & discussion. Not done for threats. This will be covered by the problem tree analyses.	
	60	Introduction to the ISAP Problem Tree.	Plenary - Cards. Explanation: How the species problem tree was constructed. Presentation of the species problem tree as contained in the ISAP. Questions & answers.	
16:00 - 16:30	30	Tea/Coffee Break		
	30	Restructuring the upper level of the Problem Tree making it relevant to country	Plenary - Agree relevance to country. Discussion & stay the same or removing and/or adding cards at the upper level. Includes filling any gaps at the upper level.	

	60	Review branches of the problem tree and make relevant to country	Groups - Cards. Divide people into groups. The group removes a branch or tow, reconstructs the branch(es)	
	60	Group presentations on reconstructed problem tree branches.	Plenary - Cards. Each group presents their Problem Tree. Discussion refinement and consensus.	
	5	Evaluation.	Happy, medium, sad face.	
19:00 -		DINNER		
Day 2.				
	15	Recap of day 1.	Plenary - Overheads / Flipchart / Cards.	
	60	Prioritisation of issues by on impact on species	Plenary - Cards. low (♦), medium (♦♦), high (♦♦♦) and critical (♦♦♦♦).	
	15	Review the Objectives from the ISAP.	Plenary - Cards / Flipchart. Link between the Objectives and Problem Tree. (use newly constructed national Problem Tree).	
10:00 - 10:30	30	Tea/Coffee Break		
	60	Design project concepts.	Groups - Cards / Flipchart. Divide people into groups based on Objectives. Review project concepts against those in the ISAP Retain, remove and/or develop new project concepts.	
	60	Group presentations on project concepts.	Plenary - Cards/ Flipchart. Each group presents their project concepts. Discussion refinement and consensus.	
	30	Review the Vision & Aim.	Plenary - Flipchart. Changes, the same, add "in country"	
13:00 - 14:00	60	LUNCH		
	60	Completion of projects table.	Groups - Cards/Flipchart. Same Groups as for Objectives and designing Project Concepts. One from each group to form a further group to look at indicators for the Aim and Objectives.	
	90	Group presentations on completed Projects Tables. Group presents indicators for the Aim & Objectives.	Plenary - Cards/Flipchart. Group present project tables and indicators for Aim & Objectives. Discussion refinement and consensus.	
16:30 - 17:00	30	Tea/Coffee		
	60	Monitoring & Evaluation Plan.	Plenary - Overheads.	
	60	Adoption of the plan.	Plenary: Any objections to any part/component of the plan? Can we adopt the plan? YES. Review expectations Next steps	
	15	Workshop close.	Vote of thanks.	
		Final Evaluation.	Happy, medium, sad face.	
19:00 -		DINNER		

**Annex 5: Program for the Spotted Ground Thrush Stakeholders' workshop for Kenya
13-14 January 2004, Mwamba Field study Centre (A Rocha Kenya), Watamu, Kenya**

Time	13 January 2004	14 January 2004
8:00 – 13:00	Welcome (A Rocha Kenya) Introductions (KN) ASWG/SAP Project (ES) Explanation of workshop techniques (ES) Expectations (KN) Tea/Coffee break (ALL) What is a Species Action Plan? (KN) Overview of the workshop programme (ES) Presentation of background information (KN) Discussion of background information cont. (KN/ES)	Recap of day 1 (KN) Review the Objectives from the International SGT Action Plan (ES) Tea/Coffee break (ALL) Design project concepts (ES) Group presentations on project concepts (ES) Review the Vision & Aim (ES) Completion of Projects Table (ES) Group presentations on completed Projects Table (ES)
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH	LUNCH
14:00 – 18:00	Introduction to the International SGT Problem Tree (ES) Restructuring the upper level of the problem tree making it relevant to Kenya (ES) Review branches of the problem tree & make relevant to Kenya (ES) Tea/Coffee break (ALL) Group presentations on reconstructed problem tree branches (ES) Prioritisation of issues based on impact on SGT in Kenya (ES) Evaluation (KN)	Press Release (KN) Tea/Coffee break (ALL) Monitoring & Evaluation Plan (ES) Adoption of the plan (KN) Review expectations (ES) Next steps (ES) Workshop close (NK) Final Evaluation (KN)

KN=Kariuki Ndang'ang'a, ES=Eric Sande, NK=Nature Kenya

The Workshop is organised by Nature Kenya, The BirdLife International Partner in Kenya. The SAP project is co-ordinated, on behalf of the BirdLife International African Species Working Group, by NatureUganda, BirdLife South Africa and the RSPB (the BirdLife Partners in Uganda, South Africa and the UK respectively). The project is supported and implemented by 17 African BirdLife partner organisations and RSPB and co-funded by the UK Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under the Darwin Initiative

Annex 6: List of participants and their contact details

Name	Institution/ Group	Position	Where based	Species Conservation experience	Postal Address	Tel	Email
Kariuki Ndang'ang'a	NMK/Nature Kenya	Research Scientist	Nairobi	ASWG, SGThrush Sharpe's Longclaw	Dept. of Ornithology P.O. Box 40658, 00100 GPO, Nairobi	Ext 243/+254 020 3746090,	ndanganga@yahoo.com kbirds@africaonline.co.ke
Eric Sande	Nature Uganda	ASWG Coordinator	Kampala Uganda	Nahan's Francolin -6 int. and 5 nat. SAP's.	P.O. Box 27034 Kampala, Uganda	25641540719 Cell: 25677688552	Eric.sande@natureuganda.org
Colin Jackson	A Rocha Kenya	Director	Watamu	Working directly on bird conservation since 1989 - in Portugal, NMK & now A Rocha Kenya in Watamu . Species: Kentish Plover, waterbirds, Clarke's weaver, SGT	P.O. Box 383 Watumu 80202	042-32023 0722-842366	Colin.jackson@arocha.org
Abdalla Alaussy	NMK	Curator	Gede museum	Monuments Birds in General Any issues pertaining to conservation	P.O. Box 5067, Malindi	042-32065 Fax: 042- 32380 0722 305378	gedemuseum@swiftmalindi.com
Anastacia Mwaura	Nature Kenya	Ecotourism Promotion Officer	Arabuko-Sokoke Forest	SGT -int. SAP	P.o. Box 1 Gede	0722 660010	Crownedc@yahoo.com
Anthony Kiragu	Nature Kenya	Conservation Programming Officer	Nairobi	IBA programme SLG, SGT, Community Conservation Project	P.O. Box 44486 00100 GPO Nairobi	020 3749986 020 3746090 0722 300130	office@naturekenya.org Kiragu_ma@yahoo.com
Mwavita M Matthias	Kenya Wildlife Service	KWS Warden	Arabuko Sokoke Forest	Birds distribution in relation to landscapes and tourism Biodiversity Security	P.O. Box 1 Gede	042 32462 0733 809919	Kwsarabuko@africaonline.co.ke
Ronald Mulwa	NMK	Research	Nairobi	IBA Species & Habitat	P.O. Box 40658	020 3742161	Kbirds@africaonline.co.ke

		Scientist		monitoring Focal point	00100 GPO Nairobi	Ext.243 0722 499841	ke
Mary Muhungu	Arabuko Sokoke Forest Guide Association	Guide	Arabuko Sokoke	Species Conservation	P.O. Box 1 Gede	042 32462	
Charles Musyoki	KWS	Scientist	Aberdare/Mt.Ke nya Research in Nyeri & Embu	Trained in SAP Int. Blue Swallow A.P Int. SGT A.P	P.O. Box 494, Nyeri	061 4652 0722 613865	Kwsnyeri@africaonline. co.ke
Willy Kombe	ASFGA-Gede (Arabuko)	Research Assistant	Gede (Arabuko Sokoke)	-Amani Sunbird -Sokoke Pipit -Golden-rumped Elephant Shrew -Ader's Duiker -Sokoke Pipit	P.O. Box 1 Gede	0733 971604	spinetailsafaris @yahoo.com
Nassir A. Bege	Mridadzo Forests Association	Secretary	Mrima Hill Marenje & Dzombo Hill Forests	Species Conservation Trees	P.O. Box 83 Lungalunga	0722 368591	
John Baya Mitsanze	Coastal Forest Conservation Unit (NMK)	Environmental and Culture Education Officer	CFCU - Ukunda Kwale	Educator/Researcher Biodiversity Conservation	P.O. Box 86, Ukunda	0722 579261	Jmitsanze@yahoo.com
Francis Kagema Wathigu	Formerly with Falconry of Kenya		Malindi	Egyptian Vulture	P.O. Box 1003 Malindi	0734 881699	

Annex 7: Workshop techniques

Rules for the use of cards during brainstorming

- Only one idea/concept per card
- Aim for a maximum of 3 lines of text per card
- Write in upper and lower case letters
- Use the card in landscape format; do not use the cards in portrait format
- No discussions until all the cards have been collected and displayed
- Spelling does not matter

Rules for the use of flipchart during brainstorming

- Each person has an opportunity to present his/her idea(s)
- All ideas are recorded onto the flip chart
- All ideas are captured during which time there is no discussion at this stage
- Once all the ideas have been captured, discussion follows

Annex 8: Participants expectations

- Poverty which leads to the Destruction of the habitats
- Population increase leads t the construction of buildings
- Identify SAP implementing stakeholders
- Stakeholder's involvement and participation in the process
- How communities can take up action
- A plan of focussed action to save SGT In Kenya
- National Action Plan for SGT
- Develop National SGT Action Plan
- A National Plan which is practical
- Come up with the SAP Actions Conserve Habitants for the birds
- Get knowledge of conserving bird's species
- A broad knowledge of species conservation
- Enhanced understanding of SAP process
- Understand SA Planning process
- Understand more about SGT status
- GAP in knowledge
- Renewed commitment and enthusiasm to protect SGT
- Have fun
- Renew content and funding
- Interact and have fun
- To develop more SGT to conserve the environment

Annex 9: Definition of a Species Action Plan

(a) Results from the brainstorm

What is the SPECIES ACTION PLAN?

- Plan of Action
- Activities to enhance survivals of species
- Guideline to promote recovery of endangered species
- Focussed on a single species
- Deliberate effort to conserve endangered species
- Conservation strategies
- Collaborative - includes many organisations
- Long-term

(b) BirdLife International African Partnership definition

A Species Action Plan is a scientifically authoritative, strategic document that defines specific, measurable objectives and actions for conserving priority species. It should be achievable, time-bound and involve all appropriate stakeholders.

- i) Scientifically authoritative
 - **Review and document all data available**
 - **Involve all relevant experts**
 - **Check data in workshop**
- ii) Strategic document that defines specific, measurable objectives and actions
 - **Strategy: Where are we, where do we want to be and how do we get there?**
 - **Specific**
 - **Measurable**
- iii) Achievable, time-bound
 - (a) **SMART Objectives**
- iv) Involve all appropriate stakeholders

Annex 10: Draft Spotted Ground Thrush *Zoothera guttata* Action Plan for Kenya

1.0 Introduction

Spotted Ground Thrush *Zoothera guttata* is an endemic resident and intra-African migrant. It is generally rare but fairly common at very few localities. Severe threats in form of forest loss and fragmentation leading to rapid population decline have led to the species being classified as Endangered. It has very small and severely fragmented area of occupancy, throughout which its forest habitat continues to be degraded and destroyed (BirdLife International 2000). Its population is inferred to be undergoing a continuous decline and has been classed as rare in IUCN/ICBP Red Data Book (Collar and Stuart 1985). It is mainly threatened by destruction of its forest habitat, and in South Africa also by low breeding success, mortality during migration and to a lesser extent by availability of food.

Field Characters

It is a brown thrush with spotted underparts and diagnostic white wing-spots and underwing bar of *Zoothera*. Its brown plumage blends perfectly with leaf-litter, and this combined with habit of standing still for long periods makes it extremely hard to find. It is confined to forest.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 Taxonomy

Class: Aves
 Order: Passeriformes
 Family: Turdidae
 Genus: *Zoothera*
 Species: *guttata*

Five races of *Zoothera guttata* are described: *fischeri*, *guttata*, *belcheri*, *maxis* and *lippensi*. The race found in Kenya is *Z. g. fischeri*

2.2 Distribution and population status

All the five races of Spotted Ground Thrush exist in isolated patches of moist evergreen forest (Dean *et al.*, 1992). Two are migratory coastal races, one (*Z. g. fischeri*) in Kenya, Tanzania, and probably Mozambique, and the other (*Z. g. guttata*) in South Africa. A resident race (*belcheri*) is found in Malawi, and two other races are known from single specimens in Sudan (*maxis*) and Democratic Republic of Congo (*lippensi*).

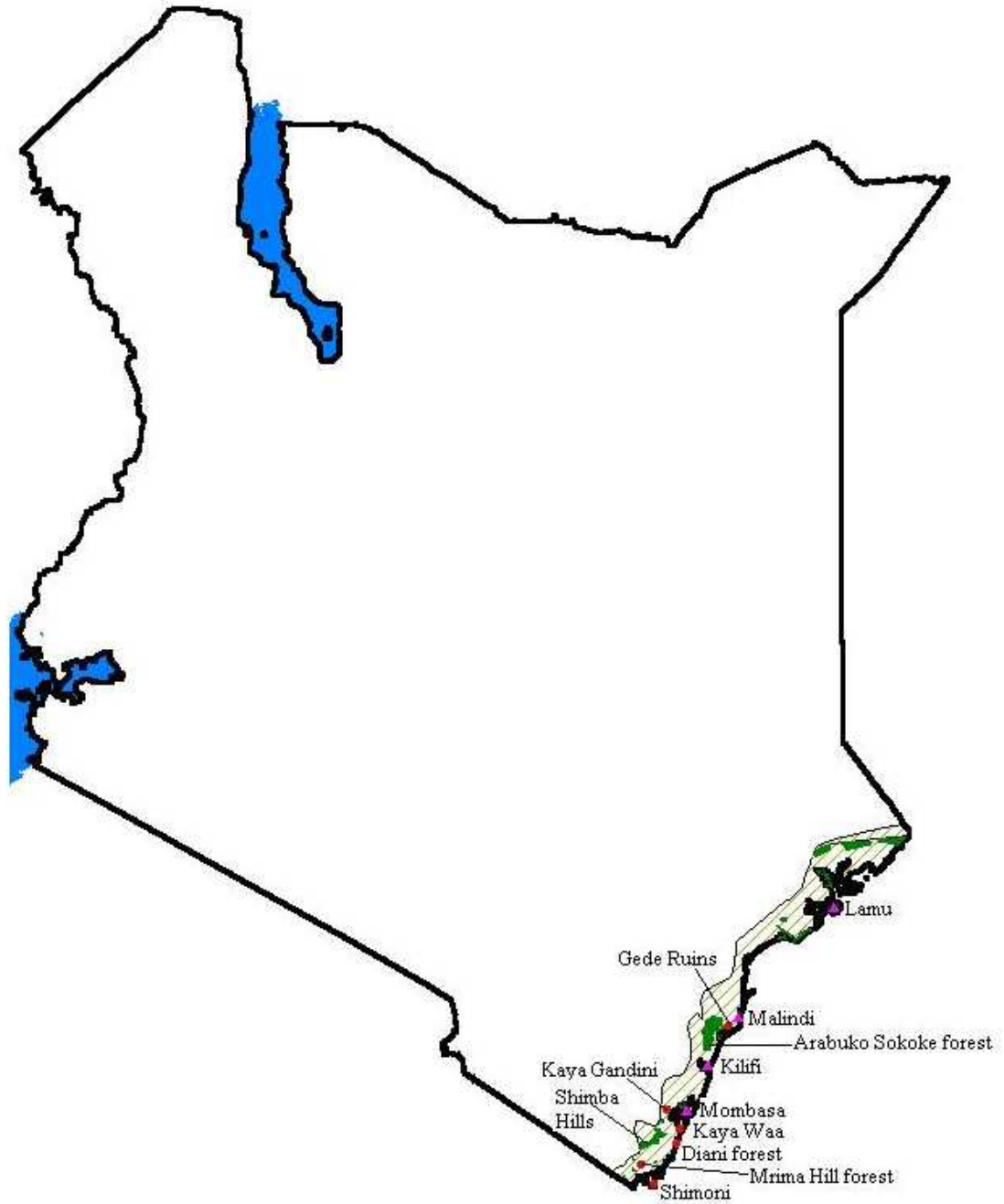
Z. g. fischeri is known only as a non-breeding visitor between late March and November to forests on the Kenya coast (Bennun, 1992). Their preferred habitat seems to be a few tiny patches of thick coastal forest on coral rag soil, where they have in the past been recorded at high densities (Bennun, 1985). However, they are also known to be present at very low densities throughout the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest. Because coral rag forest patches are so small, Arabuko-Sokoke still probably holds the bulk of the non-breeding population (Bennun, 1992). The breeding ground of this population occurs in some of the Tanzanian coastal forests. Their breeding grounds were unknown for a long time until in the 1990s when birds with brood patches were caught in the forest on the Rondo Plateau in the extreme southern Tanzania. There may be other breeding populations in northern Mozambique, where there has been little ornithological exploration (Bennun 1992). It is a non-breeding visitor to coastal Kenya and north-eastern Tanzania from Lamu to Pugu Hills (Baker and Baker 1992; Dean *et al.*, 1992).

In Kenya it has been recorded north to Lamu, but with most records from the Gedi and Arabuko-Sokoke Forests. It is present at very low densities throughout the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest; but has in the past been known to occur at higher densities in the few tiny patches of

thick coastal forest such as Diani, Shimoni and Gede. A few records have been made elsewhere: Kaya Gandini, Kaya Waa, Mrima Hill Forest, Mkongani, Shimba Hills. It is probable that the species can be found in other unsurveyed sites, especially in the north coast. Observations of the bird in a small privately owned forest patch in Vipingo in October 2003 by Norbert Rotcher (pers. com) could probably suggest that relic unpopular patches of coral rag coastal forests within its range are still quite important for the species since it can use them as feeding grounds or for cover when on passage (Ndang'ang'a *in prep.*). In fact, records of birds that might have been on passage had also been made in thickets at Bamburi near Mombasa (Britton and Rathbun 1978), suggesting that even non-forest habitats that provide adequate cover are important for this migratory thrush, and thus should be maintained.

Records of the species made by Ndang'ang'a (*in prep*) were all at localities spread through most of the Kenya coast within the range of the species, suggesting that at a large scale its distribution may not have changed significantly. However, at a finer (site-specific) scale, it is likely that habitat loss has forced the species to drop out of some sites that it used to visit in the past. Ndang'ang'a's (*in prep*) results suggest that the species is no longer numerous in forests on coral rag at Diani (otherwise known as Jadini), Shimoni and Gede Ruins, where in the 1970s it had been noted to be numerous (Irvine and Irvine 1977 a, b; Britton and Rathbun 1978). This trend could imply that it might as well have been lost in other localities. Dotted localities such as Lamu, Kipini and Mambrui where old records dating between 1870 and 1940 had been made (Britton and Rathbun 1978) could have been affected, especially due to tourist development leading to loss of forest habitat (Ndang'ang'a *in prep*).

Figure 1: Map showing distribution of Spotted Ground Thrush in Kenya



Shaded areas indicate the approximate range of the Spotted Ground Thrush. Sites where the species has been recorded are labelled.

Table 1: Distribution of *Z. guttata* in its range countries

Country	Race	Population (plus quality code)	Distribution	Seasonal occurrence	Population trend (plus quality code)	Breeding/non Breeding	Notes
South Africa	<i>guttata</i>	400-800 pairs (est.)	Occurs at scattered forest localities from Cove Rock in Eastern Cape to Lake St Lucia in KwaZulu-Natal. The breeding range is disjunct, occurring in three main areas: coastal Eastern Cape, southern KwaZulu-Natal and northern KwaZulu-Natal.	Migratory	Decreasing slowly	Breeding and non breeding	
Mozambique	<i>guttata?</i> <i>fischeri?</i> <i>Belcheri?</i>	??	Two recent records of <i>guttata</i> from southern Mozambique in the Maputo Special Reserve and Inhaca Island. <i>Z. g. fischeri</i> could probably be found in northern Mozambique. <i>Belcheri</i> could be expected on mountains adjacent to Malawi, especially Chiperoone and Namuli. Status needs to be clarified		unknown	Probably non-breeding	
Malawi	<i>belcheri</i>	30-40 pairs (est)	Montane forests of southern Malawi: Soche Mountain, ; Thyolo Mountain, Mount Mulanje, and possibly in Chikala Hill (part of Liwonde Hills Forest Reserve)	Resident	Rapidly decreasing	Breeding	
Tanzania	<i>fischeri</i>	>200 pairs	Breeding in the Rondo Plateau and Litipo Forests reserves; A regular passage migrant through forests of Pande and Dondwe, and Kisarawe District (Pugu hills, Kazimzumbwi and Ruvu Forest Reserves). Expected to occur on passage from Zaraninge forest in Bagamoyo District or other coastal forests in Rufiji, Handeni, Kilwa and Pangani Districts .	Resident & non resident	Decreasing	Breeding and non-breeding	
Kenya	<i>fischeri</i>	±175 pairs	Coastal forests: north to Lamu, Gedi and Arabuko-Sokoke Forests, tiny patches of thick coastal forest such as Diani, Shimoni and Gede; a few records at Kaya Gandini, Kaya Waa, Mrima Hill Forest, Mkongani, Shimba Hills, Vipingo	visitor	Decreasing	Non breeding	
DRC	<i>lippensi</i>	>1	Montane forest in Upemba National Park SE DRC	?	unknown		
Sudan	<i>maxis</i>	>1	Imatong mountains south-east of Juba on the Ugandan border		unknown		

Table 2: Kenya population estimates

Site	IBA no.	PA status	Approx. no. of pairs
Gede Ruins	KE 011	National monument	25
Arabuko-Sokoke Forest	KE 007	Forest NR & NP	100
Diani	KE 009	Private	10
Shimoni		Private	?
Kaya Gandini	KE 012	National monument	10
Kaya Waa	KE 013	National monument	5?
Mrima Hill Forest	KE 018	FR/ National monument	10?
Shimba Hills	KE 020	NR/Community Sanctuary	10
Vipingo		Private	2?
Un-surveyed sites			?

2.3 Movements

Movements of *Z. g. fischeri* are not well understood. Existing circumstantial evidence, however, suggests that it breeds in the forests of southern Tanzania, and then visits coastal Kenya and northern Tanzania during the non-breeding season from around late March to November.

2.4 Population status

In the past, when patches of coastal forest were larger, more numerous, and near-continuous, Spotted Ground Thrushes must have been more abundant than at present (Barnes 2000). Forest degradation and alteration has undoubtedly led to the reduced habitat availability and a subsequent decline in the population size. In fact, based on data from a recent survey of the bird, Ndang'ang'a (*in prep*) estimated a probable c. 80% decline in numbers of the birds visiting Kenyan coastal forests in the past two decades. Limited data from irregular and infrequent records have prevented an accurate population estimate from being made. The global population is estimated at 2000-4000 individuals (Collar and Stuart 1985). Approximately ± 175 pairs are estimated to visit Kenya.

A number of national and international legislations relevant to conservation of the species exist in Kenya (Table 3).

Table 3: National legislation and international conservation treaties relevant to Spotted Ground Thrush in Kenya

National legislation	International Treaties					
	CITES	UNESCO	AC	WHC	CBD	CMS
• Wildlife Act	√	√	√	√	√	√
• Environmental Management and Coordination Act						
• Forest Act						

AC=African Convention, WHC=World heritage Convention, CBD=Convention of Biological Diversity, CMS=Convention of Migratory Species, CITES=Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

2.5 Protection status and relationship with other Species Action Plans and biodiversity strategies

- Arabuko Sokoke Forest now benefits from conservation through sustainable use through an extremely successful butterfly rearing project (KIPEPEO project) developed by Nature Kenya and National Museums of Kenya. The project has helped increase community revenue from-non-timber forest products and now operates profitably.
- Nature Kenya, with grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has launched a project to implement the strategic management plan for Arabuko Sokoke Forest. The project aims to improve the livelihoods of local people , providing them wit sustainable occupations, in turn securing support for the forest's biodiversity.

- Most of the coastal forests are protected by the Forests Act. Arabuko Sokoke Forest is managed under a Memorandum of Understanding between Kenya Wildlife Service and Forest Department. Most of the sites where Spotted Ground Thrush is found are now recognised as Important Bird Areas (Table 3) and some of them are likely to benefit from site-based conservation actions.
- A National Spotted Ground Thrush Action plan for Tanzania has already been made, and if implemented, will substantially benefit the conservation of Spotted Ground Thrush in Kenya.

2.6 Habitat requirements of species

Z. guttata inhabits forests of various types (Dean *et al.* 1992). It occurs in deep shade in a variety of forest-types with deep leaf litter, from dry *Cynometra* thicket in the Arabuko-Sokoke at sea-level (non-breeding birds) to moist evergreen forest at 1200-1700 m in Malawi (BirdLife International 2000).

In East Africa, it inhabits low altitude moist evergreen forest with nearly complete canopy cover, deep shade, extensive moist, thick leaf litter and sparse undergrowth. It likes areas of low coral vegetation with dead wood and vine tangles for cover when threatened. In Sokoke forest it occurs in *Afzelia* forest and dry *Cynometra* thicket. The coral rag forests of Kenya (Gede and Diani have no thick diverse undergrowth layers characteristic of lowland rainforests of coastal Kenya. This is perhaps why they have high densities of this bird. In Gede they prefer deeply shaded areas with thicker leaf litter and more open understory, but also utilise adjacent denser undergrowth refuges.

2.7 Biology and ecology

Food and feeding: Frequents forest floor and lower branches of leafy trees. Foraging is done in typical thrush fashion, scratching up the leaves and stabbing at discovered prey with the bill. Searches for food on rotting logs and scratches among leaves on ground in deep shade. Digs in the soil with its heavy bill, flying off to low tree branches when disturbed (Zimmerman 1996). Food includes seeds, fruits, insects and their larvae including termites and ants, worms, large (up to 8 cm) and small millipedes especially *Prionopetalum* and land molluscs. Mainly solitary feeding. Avoids bird parties. Acrimonious behaviour has been observed especially towards other birds while feeding at least in Diani forest. The thrush is predominantly a litter forager and since feeding is an important survival tool, the litter layer is an important habitat component for it.

General ecology: Avoids disturbance prone areas. Solitary or in pairs, sometimes in small parties on migration. Can be fairly tame. Site fidelity is marked on wintering grounds of *Z. g. fischeri* at Gede, Kenya, where birds appeared to have homeranges (Bennun 1985, 1987). Has a homerange of at least 0.14 ha (BirdLife International 2000).

2.8 Threats of the Spotted Ground Thrush

The critical threats/issues of the Spotted Ground Thrush identified through a cause-effect relationship of a problem tree included: limited data on distribution/population size, naturally low population, habitat degradation, infrastructural development, limited awareness and economic interest of some stakeholders. All the threats/issues, their relative impact on the conservation of the species in Kenya (low, medium, high, or critical), their causes in the a cause-effect relationship that ultimately contribute to the low global population of the Spotted Ground Thrush are shown in the Problem Tree (Figure 2).

2.9 Stakeholders

The main stakeholders for the Spotted Ground Thrush in Kenya include: Nature Kenya, Kenya Wildlife Service, Forest department, National Museums of Kenya, Nature Kenya and A Rocha Kenya. The list of all the important stakeholders, their mission and how their activities impact on the conservation of the species is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: Spotted Ground Thrush Stakeholders analysis for Kenya

Stakeholder	Interest	Activities	Imp.	Int.	Proposed Activities
Kenya Wildlife Services	- Biodiversity conservation	Protection	+/-	◆◆◆◆/◆◆	- Focused protection for SGT & its habitat
		Tourism development	+/-	◆◆/◆	-Site appropriate eco-tourism
		Partnership	+	◆◆◆	Strengthen partnerships
		Environmental awareness	+	◆◆◆	Raise profile of SGT & plan
		Research & Monitoring	+	◆◆	Generate more ecological information on SGT
		Fundraising for SGT	+	◆	Fundraise for plan implementation
Forest Department	Forest management	Protection	+	◆◆◆◆	Intensify protection of indigenous forest
		Commercial exploitation	-	◆	Enforce ban on logging of indigenous trees
		Partnerships	+/-	◆◆	Proper management of partnerships
		Tree planting	+/-	◆◆	Promote enrichment planting
National Museums of Kenya	Preserve National heritage	Preservation & protection of sites	+	◆◆◆◆	Enforce protection of lower profiled sites
	Research	Applied conservation research of biodiversity	+	◆◆◆	More research & monitoring
	Education & awareness	Information dissemination	+	◆	Promote awareness of SGT & plan
	Tourism	Promotion of visitors to sites	+/-	◆/◆	Promote awareness of SGT & plan & minimize disturbance to habitat
Community including FADA, ASFGA & Kipepeo	Utilization & Protection	firewood collection	-	◆◆	- Promote sustainable use practices & implementation of plan
		grazing	-	◆◆	
		Poles	-	◆◆	
		Honey	-	◆◆◆	
		Medicine	+/-	◆◆	
		Cultural practises	+	◆◆◆◆	
		Conservation (Tree planting)	+	◆◆	
		Awareness	+	◆◆	
		Agriculture	-	◆	
Butterfly farming	+	◆◆◆			
International NGOs BirdLife International, BCP, NABU, KNH, Darwin Initiative, RSPB, WWF, CI	- Biodiversity conservation - Development	Fundraising, Ecotourism, Social development projects, Advocacy, Training			
Private land owners/occupants	Interest: Development	Activities: Economic activities	+/-	◆◆	Promote awareness
Private firms	Economic	Business	+/-	◆	Promote awareness and encourage them to contribute towards conservation
Friends of ASF	Biodiversity conservation	Environmental awareness Fund raising	+	◆◆	Involve them widely in SGT conservation activities

Friends of Shimba Hills	Biodiversity conservation	Environmental awareness Fund raising	+	◆◆	Involve them widely in SGT conservation activities
Malindi Museum Society	Conservation of national heritage	Fund raising for conservation Conservation awareness	+	◆	Involve them widely in SGT conservation activities
Coast Development Authority	Development	Development activities	-/+	◆	Make them aware of effect of development on SGT and how they can help conserve
Friends of Fort Jesus	Conservation of national heritage	Fund raising for conservation Conservation awareness	+	◆	Involve them widely in SGT conservation activities
Local Authorities e.g. Malindi Municipal Council	Development Conservation	Development activities Maintenance of sites	-/+	◆	Involve them widely in SGT conservation activities
NEMA	Biodiversity conservation	Environmental policy implementation	+	◆◆◆	SGT conservation policy matters tackled through NEMA
Other National NGOs e.g. -Colobus Trust, EDENS Trust, A Rocha -Kenya	Biodiversity conservation	Education, research, fund raising	+	◆◆◆	Involve them widely in SGT conservation activities

Imp.=Impact of activities =positive or negative,
Int=Intensity of the impact; ◆= Low, ◆◆=Medium, ◆◆◆= High, ◆◆◆◆=Critical

Figure 2: Threats of the Spotted Ground Thrush in Kenya illustrated in a Problem Tree:

3. Action Programme

Table 5: Vision Aim and Objectives

Vision	Description and justification	Indicators
Ensure the long-term survival of a viable population such that it is ultimately removed from the IUCN Red Data List	The species is currently globally threatened classified as Endangered because of low population	The species down graded to Vulnerable or near threatened
Aim (5 years)		
Knowledge on the distribution, conservation biology and status of SGT improved and population stabilised in Kenya	Bird is probably endangered because of limited information /data about it. Increase in knowledge about it may significantly change its conservation status	Ecology and population of the species across country known
Objectives		
1. Conservation biology of SGT understood (◆◆◆◆)	The biology of the SGT is not well known	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population sizes and trends at known sites known and communicated to stakeholders. Annual mortality rates and causes known at 30% or the sites.
2. Conservation Status of non-breeding and stopover sites improved (◆◆◆)	The majority of the sites where the species has been reported have some form of legal protection which needs to be enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one community based natural resources committees (bird clubs/SSGs) formed at each key site. 50% increase in recovered ringed and sightings. SSGT friendly conservation strategies initiated or enhanced at 80% of the key sites Enrichment planting of indigenous trees at degraded sites initiated. Site specific group trained in SGT identification and monitoring. One SGT conservation status report produced annually & distributed to stakeholders Illegal activities reduced by 20% in key SGT sites
3. Important non-breeding and stopover sites determined (◆◆)	To better conserve the species, it is important that all the critical sites which it uses are determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on confirmed non-breeding and stop-over sites incl. map published in at least one local and one international journals and also shared with stakeholders Ringing program continued and intensified at ASF and initiated at least one other site in South Coast (Mrima hill). Biannual presentations of migration studies in major media channels (TV, radio, newspaper) 50% increase in recovered ringed and sightings. Detailed surveys of indigenous knowledge carried out and analysed for 50% of known sites. 30% of schools and conservation community groups within a radius of 5km distance from the known sites involved in SGT awareness campaigns.
4. An effective national network for conservation of globally threatened birds on the Kenyan coast including the SGT established (◆◆◆).	The species requires a concerted effort to conserve, thus a coordinated network of dedicated people needs to be put in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A national SGT and Kenyan coast global threatened birds working group established At least 3 key stakeholders have input into the coordinated national or local actions. Action plan implementation in known sites. Productive contacts and information flow maintained. Annual progress reports produced. Annual working group meetings and discussions forum in place.

SGT= Spotted Ground Thrush

The action program includes the vision, aim, objectives and projects/activities of the action plan. The vision, aim, objectives and specific objectives are indicated in Table 5.

Projects

1. Conservation biology of SGT understood (◆◆◆◆)

- 1.1. Determine and monitor population size in all known and potential sites.
- 1.2. Determine mortality rates in forests habitat types
- 1.3. Enhance knowledge of natural history of SGT
- 1.4. Assess the impacts of ecological factors (biotic-predators, competitors; a biotic- rainfall etc) on population dynamics at all sites.

2. Conservation Status of non-breeding and stopover sites improved (◆◆)

- 2.1. Stakeholders sensitised on the conservation status of SGT (Environmental Education on habitat requirements, etc)
- 2.2. Develop and implement sustainable management plans for at least 30% SGT sites
- 2.3. Initiate research and monitoring programmes for SGT and its habitat.
- 2.4. Identify the legislation gaps and lobby for appropriate amendments and enforcement with regard to SGT and habitat (include habitat fragmentation
- 2.5. Promote and initiate on farm forestry programmes to reduce over reliance on natural forestry products

3. Important non-breeding and stopover sites determined (◆◆)

- 3.1. Identify all known and potential sites for non-breeding or and stopover.
- 3.2. Carry out detailed studies of all known and potential sites to determine population and size and status.
- 3.3. Conduct appropriate research to determine routes followed during migration.
- 3.4. Evaluate local indigenous attitudes and knowledge regarding SGT for population adjacent to non-breeding and stop over sites.
- 3.5. Conduct education and awareness campaigns about SGT studies to generate more data from opportunistic sightings and from recovery of ringed birds.
- 3.6. Determined and rank importance of non-breeding and stop-over sites based on population size.

4. An effective national network for conservation of globally threatened birds on the Kenyan coast including the SGT established (◆◆◆).

- 4.1. Establish a national Working Group for threatened birds along Kenyan coast involving site specific stakeholders to co-ordinator actions.
- 4.2. Establish or engage existing site specific groups to co-ordinate SGT actions.
- 4.3. Increase awareness and publicity for the conservation of SGT and other GTBs among stakeholders. Table 6 shows the details of how the specific project will be implemented i.e., its priority as far as the conservation of the species is concerned, agencies that will take a lead to implement the project, time scale, cost, risks and opportunities that will enhance or hamper the implementation of a specific project.

Table 6: Table of projects under the four objectives with headings Policy and legislation, Species & habitat, Monitoring & Research and Public awareness and training; with agencies responsible, time scale, cost, risks and opportunities

	Project	Overall Priority	Lead Agencies	Time scale	Cost	Indicators	Risks and opportunities
A	Policy and Legislation						
2.2	Develop and implement sustainable management plans for at least 30% SGT sites	****	FD, NMK, KWS, NK community	2004-2006	\$\$\$	Management plans for at least 30% SGT sites developed and implementation ongoing by 2009	R. Can take more time than envisaged. O. Provides a framework within which stakeholders assign themselves responsibilities.
2.4	Identify the legislation gaps and lobby for appropriate amendments and enforcement with regard to SGT and habitat	***	KWS, NK, NMK, FD, local authority, NEMA, local community, Provincial Administration	2004-2006	\$	Gaps identified by 2005 and amendments initiated by 2006.	R- Beaucraacy delays - existence of EMCA and DEC's
B	Species & Habitat						
1.2	Determine mortality rates in forests habitat types	*	NMK, KWS, NK, community	2004-2009	\$\$	Mortality rates and their causes determined by 2009	R. Time consuming, ltd methodology, expensive. O -SSGS & community involvement – observer coverage
1.3	Enhance knowledge of natural history of SGT	***	NMK, KWS, NK community	2004-2005	\$	Local people around key SGT sites well acquainted with the knowledge about the species	R - lack of local people who may help in filling gaps O - Local people's co-operation on involvement, some information not available
3.1	Identify all known and potential sites for non-breeding or and stopover	*****	NMK, NK, KWS	2004-2005	\$\$	List of all the known and potential sites in place by 2004	
3.6	Determined and rank importance of non-breeding and stop-over sites based on population size	***	NMK	2004-2006	\$	List of critical sites in place by 2007	
C	Monitoring & Research						
1.1	Determine and monitor population size in all known and potential sites	****	NMK, NK, KWS, community	2004-2009	\$\$\$	Population size and trend of SGT in Kenya known by 2009	R. Some potential sites inaccessible O. expertise available, some available
1.4	Assess the impacts of ecological factors (biotic-predators, competitors; a biotic- rainfall etc) on population dynamics at all sites	****	NMK, KWS,NK community	2004-2009	\$\$\$	Information on ecological factors affecting population dynamics published by 2009	R -Time consuming Expertise available, local communities involvement
2.3	Initiate research and monitoring programmes for SGT and its habitat.	****	FD, NMK,KWS,NK	2004-2009	\$\$\$	Monitoring programmes in place on at least 80% of the	R-.Inaccessibility of some sites, security, private

			community			key sites by 2009	O. expertise available, local community involvement
3.2	Carry out detailed studies of all known and potential sites to determine population and size and status	****	NMK, NK, KWS	2004-2009	\$\$\$	Surveys of all known and potential sites completed by 2006	
3.3	Conduct appropriate research to determine routes followed during migration	***	NMK, SSGs	2004-2009	\$\$	Migration patterns known by 2009	
D	Public awareness and Training						
2.1	Stakeholders sensitised on the conservation status of SGT	****	NMK, KWS, NK community	2004-2009	\$\$\$	The profile of SGT raised to all the stakeholders identified by 2009	R . Initial reluctance for community to participate, long time in consensus building, misleading information among locals O -Conservation group already exist, previous experience
3.5	Conduct education and awareness campaigns about SGT studies to generate more data from opportunistic sightings and from recovery of ringed birds.	***	NMK, KWS, NK, ARK, SSGs	2004-2009	\$\$	Increase in opportunistic and recovery rates by 70% by 2008	
4.1	Establish a national Working Group for threatened birds along Kenyan coast	****	NK	2004-2006	\$	Functional Working Group in place with annual work plans by 2004	
4.3	Increase awareness and publicity for the conservation of SGT and other GTBs among stakeholders	**	KWS, NMK, NK	2004-2009	\$\$\$	The profile of SGT raised to all the stakeholders identified by 2009	
E	Community Involvement						
2.5	Promote and initiate on farm forestry programmes to reduce over reliance on natural forestry products	****	FD, NMK, NK, KEFRI, ICRAF, community	2004-2009	\$\$\$	Reduction of habitat alteration as a result of exploitation of forestry resources	R - initial community reluctance to engage on project. R - expertise, technology etc in place
3.4	Evaluate local indigenous attitudes and knowledge regarding SGT for population adjacent to non-breeding and stop over sites	***	SSGs, NMK	2004-2006	\$		
4.2	Establish or engage existing site specific groups to co-ordinate SGT actions	****	KWS, SSGs, NMK	2004-2008	\$\$	5 new SSGs at SGT sites established by 2007 and all engaged in SGT conservation	

NK=Naure Kenya, NMK=National Museums of Kenya, KWS=Kenya Wildlife Service, FD=Forestry Division, SSG=Site Support Groups, ICRAF=International Research in Agro Forestry, ARK=A Rocha Kenya, KEFRI=Kenya Forestry Research Institute

O=Opportunity, R=Risk, Overall Priority: ♦=Low, ♦♦=Medium, ♦♦♦=High, ♦♦♦♦=Critical, Cost .=\$< US\$ 10,000, \$\$=US\$ 10,000 – US\$ 50,000, \$\$\$=US\$ >50,000).

4.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The M &E plan for the Spotted Ground Thrush will be done at project, objectives and aim levels with the national species coordinator and the lead agencies taking a lead but getting assistance from other stakeholders.

The projects table with specific and measurable indicators will be used for M&E by adding two columns, one for Completion date and another for Remarks and the evaluation should be done annually.

5.0 FACTORS INFLUENCING SUCCESS OF ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

There are a number of factors that may affect the implementation of the action plan. These may be risks that may hamper or opportunities and on-going projects that may enhance the implementation of the Plan (Table 7).

Table 7. Factors influencing the implementation of the Spotted Ground Thrush action plan

Opportunities	Risks	Ongoing projects that may benefit the SGT in Kenya
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of local knowledgeable guides • Upcoming local communities groups involved in conservation • SAP Follow-up=BLI partners have opportunity for being trained in implement Action Plans • Most Communities already sensitised about conservation • KWS personnel can be used for surveys • Limited expertise • Controlled collection of firewood. • Grass root updates about conservation issues • Lacking link between conservation organisation and communities • Most of the sites where the thrush is found have some form of protection. • Currently exploitation of forest is minimal in Arabuko Sokoke forest, and is mainly through controlled firewood collection.. • A management plan that entails participatory forest management has been developed for Arabuko Sokoke Forest (Kenya). The survival of the bird in Kenya seems to rest on the conservation of this still-extensive forest. • Some expertise is available • Legislation on conservation of biodiversity is available • There is an increase in interested local people, e.g. guides • The local community is already being involved in the conservation of some SGT sites • There is a possibility of using existing birding and ecotourism groups • Many donors are eager to support conservation • An international SGT action plan is in place • Most SGT sites are IBAs • There are other on-going projects targeting other wildlife species in the SGT sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of funding • Knowledgeable local experts concentrated in ASF only • Too many needs by experts (species and issues) • Limited coordination of conservation projects • Limited translation of acquired conservation knowledge to the youth and the local implementers of various conservation programs on the ground • Limited knowledge of local community about SGT • Illegal exploitation of reserve at ASF • Reliable data is limited and species is poorly known • Parts of the forest areas where the bird is found are privately owned (e.g. Diani, Kenya) and it may be hard to control their management. • Limited commitment • Limited funds • Limited regional cooperation • Conflict with on-going programs • The species rarely provides direct tangible benefits to the local communities • Poverty is high around most sites where the species is found • Lack of awareness • Some of the forest areas in which the thrush is found are very close to urban areas, or in places that demand industrial or tourist development, and thus face high pressure. • Insecurity in some areas, e.g. Lamu limits conservation action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCP program • USAID project enhance resource management in ASF • ALISE (Agro forestry project in ASF) • Colobus Trust (Diani) • Friends of Wakuluzu • A Rocha Kenya - ASSETS, Environmental education • Afforestation program - Gede Ruins. • Kipepeo project • Monitoring of ECA • Ecotourism project by Nature Kenya • NMK - CFCU conservation of Kayas

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Annex 11: Press Release

Little-known coastal bird attracts national action

Birds are important indicators of what is happening around us. It is thus not surprising that a group of experts met at a recent workshop to draft a National Action Plan on how to conserve one rare bird in Kenya: the Spotted Ground Thrush!

With less than 2,500 individuals remaining in the world, the Spotted Ground Thrush *Zoothera guttata* is one of Africa's most endangered birds and amongst the most sought after by birdwatchers. In fact, less than 200 pairs are estimated to occur in Kenya. Five races of this striking ground-dwelling thrush are recognised within its range, but existing in what are now only isolated patches of forest. One of the races is found in Kenya and Tanzania, where it is known to be migratory between the two countries. Its preferred vegetation is indigenous coastal forest with complete canopy cover, deep shade, thick leaf litter and sparse undergrowth. It breeds in the forests of southern Tanzania, and then visits coastal Kenya between March and November every year. During this visit it does not breed, but spends most of its time feeding. In Kenya it has been recorded north to Lamu, but with most records being from the Gede Ruins and Arabuko-Sokoke Forests. Other forests along Kenya coast where it has been recorded include: Kaya Gandini, Kaya Waa, Mrima Hill, Shimba Hills, and in the few tiny patches of thick coastal forest such as those found in Diani, Shimoni and Vipingo.

The main danger facing the bird's survival is destruction and degradation of its forest habitat through various human activities, mainly agriculture, extraction of timber and uncontrolled development into forests. Recently a dead individual that is suspected to have collided with a building was collected in Mombasa, providing evidence that this bird also faces the danger of accidental deaths especially in industrial areas where bright lights confuse migrating birds at night. It bore a metal tag that had been placed on it by bird ringers in Tanzania, further confirming its migratory behaviour.

Under the auspices of the BirdLife Africa Species Working Group, a workshop of national stakeholders was held at A Rocha Kenya's Mwamba Field Study Centre, Watamu, Kenya from 13-14th January 2004. It was jointly hosted by Nature Kenya and National Museums of Kenya (NMK), facilitated by Nature Uganda and co-funded by the Royal Society for Protection of Birds (RSPB) and the UK Darwin Initiative. In the year 2003 another workshop involving experts from all the seven countries where the species is known to occur had developed an International Action Plan for conservation of all the five races of Spotted Ground Thrush. The aim of the recent workshop was to use Kenyan knowledge to refine the international plan to fit the Kenyan situation. It ended up with a realistic National Action Plan for the species in Kenya.

The fourteen participants in the workshop represented stakeholders for conservation of the bird. They were drawn from Kenya Wildlife Service, Nature Kenya, local community groups, National Museums of Kenya and A Rocha Kenya. The workshop identified appropriate stakeholders, activities and methods to be included in the Action Plan and recommended that urgent and immediate action is needed in order to conserve the species. Major activities recommended included raising awareness, research and monitoring and appropriate and effective management of forest habitats.

Mr Mwavita, the Warden of Arabuko Sokoke Forest, was quick to point out that although the birds does not breed in Kenya, it spends most of its lifespan here, and thus it is of utmost importance that its coastal forest habitat in Kenya be conserved. Although Gede Historical Monument is popular for ruins of a fifteenth century Arab-African town, Spotted Ground Thrush has in the past been quite common in the forest at the site. Due to this, Mr Abdallah Alousy, the Curator of this monument now recognises this bird as an additional heritage worth conserving as we care for the monuments.

Implementation of actions proposed under the action plan will no doubt lead to conservation of a range of other unique coastal flora and fauna, in addition to ensuring the survival of this secretive bird.

For more information contact Kariuki Ndag'ang'a at National Museums of Kenya, Ornithology Department, P. O. Box 40658, 00100 Nairobi, or Nature Kenya, P.O. Box 44486, 00100 GPO, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel +254-(0)20-3749986 / 57, Fax +254-(0)20-3741049, Email: kbirds@africaonline.co.ke or office@naturekenya.org

Annex 12: Daily Evaluation/ Moodometer

	😊	😐	😞
Day 1	●●●●●●●●●●●●●●	●●●	
Day 2	●●●●●●●●●●		
Overall	●●●●●●●●●●		